

Message Text

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44

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 SCEM-02

SCI-06 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9600

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTO DOMINGO 194

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, DR

SUBJECT: EFFECT OF ENERGY SITUATION ON AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTION AND TRADE

REF: STATE 5278

FOR AGRICULTURE/FAS

THERE ARE NO OFFICIAL STATISTICS AVAILABLE IN THE DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC ON FERTILIZER. ALL DATA IN THIS REPORT WAS OB-
TAINED FROM PRIVATE SOURCES. FERTILIZER IMPORTS FOR 1973,
NUTRIENT BASIS, WERE IN METRIC TONS, AS FOLLOWS:

AMMONIUM SULFATE	109,800
UREA	32,700
DI-AMMONIUM PHOSPHATE	27,670
TRI-SUPERPHOSPHATE	16,350
MURIATE OF POTASH	25,770
SULFATE OF POTASH	920

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THE PRODUCTION, EXPORT, AND CONSUMPTION OF THE ABOVE
IN 1973 WAS 0; 21,320; AND 178,300 TONS, RESPECTIVELY.
PRACTICALLY ALL IMPORTS WERE FROM THE US. ESTIMATED
IMPORTS OF NUTRIENTS IN 1972 WERE 174,900 TONS AND IMPORTS
ARE EXPECTED TO INCREASE ABOUT 24 PERCENT IN 1974 OVER 1973.

THE AVERAGE PRICE PAID BY FARMERS FOR FERTILIZERS IN 1973
WAS \$79 PER SHORT TON.

THE LOCAL FERTILIZER INDUSTRY IS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT HIGH
PRICES THAN THE AVAILABILITY OF FERTILIZERS. THIS COULD EFFECT
THE USE OF SOME HIGH PRICED FERTILIZERS, E.G. UREA IN RICE
PRODUCTION. WITH HIGHER FERTILIZER COSTS, THE COST OF PRODUCING
AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES WILL RISE. A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN
THE USE OF FERTILIZER IS EXPECTED IN THE SUGAR INDUSTRY THIS
YEAR. HOWEVER, SUGAR PROFITS HAVE BEEN GOOD IN THE PAST FEW
YEARS DUE TO HIGH WORLD PRICES AND WILL NOT BE AFFECTED AS MUCH
AS OTHER COMMODITIES. THE HIGHEST USE OF FERTILIZER OCCURS
FROM MARCH THROUGH JUNE.

ESTIMATES OF GNP, CONSTANT PRICES (QOYWLN FOR 1972 THROUGH 1974
ARE 1,552; 1,660; AND 1,776 MILLION US DOLLARS RESPECTIVELY.
HURWITCH

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Message Attributes

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